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RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 CARACA 12446 271721Z
ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00	CIAE-00
	CTME-00	C-01	DODE-00	DS-00	EUR-01	FBO-01	HA-09
	H-01	IMMC-01	INRE-00	INR-01	IO-19	L-03	ADS-00
	M-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPR-01
	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00
	SR-00	SSC-01	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	USSS-00
	ASDS-01	RPE-00	/081W				

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O 271724Z NOV 92 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5749
INFO ARA COLLECTIVE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

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E.O.12356: DECL: N/A
TAGS: MARR, PGOV, ASEC, PREL, CASC, VE
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 9/ATTEMPTED COUP IN CARACAS/
AS OF 12:30 P.M.

REF: CARACAS 12443 AND PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

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PAGE 02 CARACA 12446 271721Z
1. MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR OFFICIALS HAVE ESSENTIALLY
CLOSED DOWN RADIO RUMBOS, ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL CARACAS
RADIO STATIONS REPORTING ON ONGOING DEVELOPMENTS RELATED
TO THE MILITARY UPRISING. THE STATION HAD BEEN PROVIDING
LIVE COVERAGE OF EVENTS THROUGHOUT CARACAS, USING ITS
MOBILE RADIO REPORTERS AND A TIE-IN WITH OTHER STATIONS.
THE GOV OFFICIALS WERE OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT THE
BROADCASTS RISKED STIRRING THINGS UP. RADIO RUMBOS IS NOW
ONLY BROADCASTING MUSIC, AND THEN PICKING UP AUTHORIZED
GOV STATEMENTS.

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2. JUST BEFORE NOON, A GOV OFFICIAL READ A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ANNOUNCING THE IMMINENT SUSPENSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOR TEN DAYS. THIS WAS THE STATEMENT THAT PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE MADE AT 10:30 A.M., BUT THE TELEVISION MOBILE UNIT REPORTEDLY WAS UNABLE TO GET THROUGH TO MIRAFLORES PALACE. THE RIGHTS TO BE SUSPENDED ARE ARTICLES 60 (HABEAS CORPUS), 62 (INVIOABILITY OF THE HOME), 64 (FREE MOVEMENT), 66 (FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS), AND 115 (FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY). THE SUSPENSION CAN BE EXTENDED BEYOND THE TEN DAY PERIOD BY ACT OF CONGRESS. CONGRESS WILL PROBABLY MEET THIS AFTERNOON.

4. IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER, IN A LIVE TELEVISION TRANSMISSION, THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR DECLARED THAT THE LEADERS OF THE COUP ATTEMPT HAD "SURRENDERED" AND THAT THOSE NOW CONTINUING THE "BOMBING" ARE "IRRESPONSIBLE" IN CONTINUING THEIR ARMED ACTIONS, SINCE THEY HAVE NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS. PINERUA ALSO ASSURED THE POPULATION THAT "SOON" THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE THE SITUATION "UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 CARACA 12446 271721Z
CONTROL" AND REITERATED THAT "CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES" WILL BE SUSPENDED.

5. WE ARE TOLD THAT FINANCIAL MARKETS IN CARACAS ARE CLOSED.

6. AT 1:00 P.M., WE RECEIVED REPORT THAT REBELS AT LA CARLOTA AIRPORT HAD SURRENDERED. HOWEVER, AS OF 1:20, FIRING IS CONTINUING AT THAT AIRPORT.

7. EMBASSY IS SENDING A CONSULAR OFFICER AND THE EMBASSY FAA REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MAIQUETIA AIRPORT TO LOOK AFTER THE AMERICANS (INCLUDING 9 FAA AIR MARSHALLS) STRANDED THERE ABOARD UNITED AIRLINES AND AMERICAN AIRLINES AIRCRAFT WHEN AIRPORT WAS CLOSED THIS MORNING.

FELDER

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